

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**National Park Service**

**Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items in the Possession of The Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior

**ACTION:** Notice

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Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 of the intent to repatriate cultural items in the possession of The Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL, that meet the definition of "object of cultural patrimony" under section 2 of the act.

The Little Elk Standing Village Bundle (FM# 71860-7187) consists of a hide bundle wrapper with pipe stem and arrows; paint bag; two scalp locks; three bundles of braided sweetgrass; sinew; two goose necks; swan neck; loon neck; shell; black pipe and stem; ear of corn; pierced elkhorn scraper; and penis bone. The bundle was purchased for the Field Museum by Assistant Curator James Murie in 1902 and identified as Pawnee.

The Big Black Meteoritic Bundle (FM# 71898) consists of a hide bundle wrapper; war club; two pipe stems; pipe and stem; two curved bones; pipe tamper; wooden pole for storing a star chart, including a metal disc, bag and skin container; start chart; three arrow shafts; three birds wrapped in skin; two scalp locks; small mammal skin; legging fragments; bird leg with talon; two feathers; stuffed hawk; two mammal skins; leather pouch; two bundles of braided sweetgrass; piece of leather bound with leather thong; two pouches; bag; piece of string; ear of corn; two birds in pouches; thong for tying bundle; owl skin; rope, and weasel skin. The bundle was purchased for The Field Museum by Assistant Curator James Murie in 1906 and identified as Pawnee.

Authorized representatives of the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma have been provided with copies of the museum records and have viewed the bundles in person. Representatives of the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma identify the bundles as two of the twelve major sacred bundles of the Pawnee, all of which have ongoing importance central to the Pawnee tribe as a whole and which could not have been alienated, appropriated, or conveyed by any individual. The Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Business Council requested repatriation of the bundles in a letter dated April 18, 1994.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of The Field Museum have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between the two bundles and the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. Officials of The Field Museum have also determined that the two bundles meet the definition of object of cultural patrimony pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (3)(C).

Authorities of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service have been contacted regarding applicability of Federal endangered species statutes to this transfer and have concurred in the conclusion that the object is not covered due to its age.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with this object should contact Jonathan Haas, MacArthur Curator of North American Anthropology, The Field Museum of Natural History, Roosevelt Road at Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605, telephone: (312) 922-9410, extension 641, before March 17, 1995. Repatriation of the two bundles to the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma can begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: February 9, 1995

Francis P. MacManamon  
Departmental Consulting Archeologist  
Chief, Archeological Assistance Division  
[FR Doc. 95-3685; Filed 02/14/95; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 4310-70-F**